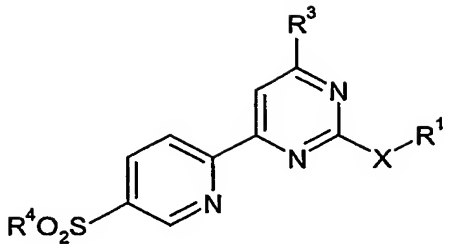
CLAIMS

1. A compound of formula (I)



(I)

or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof in which:

X is selected from the group consisting of oxygen or NR^2;

R^1 is selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-2}alkyl substituted by one to five fluorine atoms, C_{3-6}alkenyl, C_{3-6}alkynyl, C_{3-10}cycloalkylC_{0-6}alkyl, C_{4-12}bridged cycloalkyl, $A(CR^5R^6)_n$ and $B(CR^5R^6)_n$;

R^2 is selected from the group consisting of H and C_{1-6}alkyl;

R^3 is C_{1-2}alkyl substituted by one to five fluorine atoms;

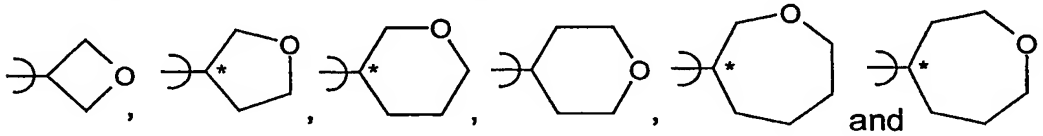
R^4 is selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6}alkyl, NH_2 and R^8CONH;

R^5 and R^6 are independently selected from H or C_{1-6}alkyl;

A is an unsubstituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl or an unsubstituted 6-membered aryl, or a 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl or a 6-membered aryl substituted by one or more R^7;

R^7 is selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyl substituted by one more fluorine atoms, C_{1-6}alkoxy, C_{1-6}alkoxy substituted by one or more F, NH_2SO_2 and C_{1-6}alkylSO_2;

B is selected from the group consisting of



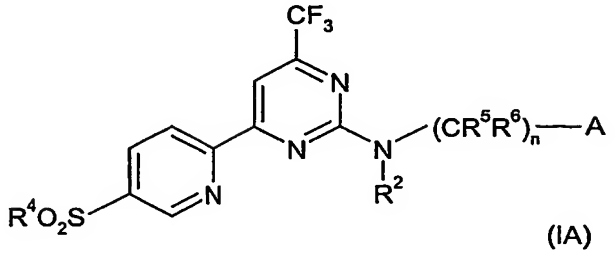
and where

) defines the point of attachment of the ring;

R^8 is selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, C_{1-6}alkylOC_{1-6}alkyl, phenyl, HO_2CC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyl$OCOC_{1-6}$alkyl, C_{1-}

$_6$alkylOCO, H_2NC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylOCONHC$_{1-6}$alkyl and C_{1-6}alkylCONHC$_{1-6}$alkyl; and
n is 0 to 4.

2. A compound of formula (IA)



(IA)

and pharmaceutically acceptable salts thereof in which:

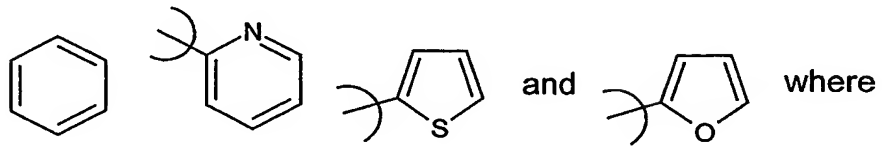
R^2 is selected from the group consisting of H and C_{1-6}alkyl;
R^4 is selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6}alkyl, NH_2 and R^8CONH;
R^5 and R^6 are independently selected from H or C_{1-6}alkyl;
A is C_{5-7}cycloalkyl or an unsubstituted 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl or an unsubstituted 6-membered aryl, or a 5- or 6-membered heteroaryl or a 6-membered aryl substituted by one or more R^7;
R^7 is selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkyl substituted by one more fluorine atoms, C_{1-6}alkoxy, C_{1-6}alkoxy substituted by one or more F, NH_2SO_2 and C_{1-6}alkylSO$_2$;
R^8 is selected from the group consisting of H, C_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkoxy, C_{1-6}alkylOC$_{1-6}$alkyl, phenyl, HO_2CC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylOCOC$_{1-6}$alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylOCO, H_2NC_{1-6}alkyl, C_{1-6}alkylOCONHC$_{1-6}$alkyl and C_{1-6}alkylCONHC$_{1-6}$alkyl; and
n is 0 to 4.

3. A compound as claimed in claim 1 or 2 wherein R^2 is H or methyl.

4. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 3 wherein R^4 is C_{1-3}alkyl.

5. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 4 wherein R^5 and R^6 are both H.

6. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 5 wherein A is selected from the group consisting of C_{5-7}cycloalkyl or



) defines the point of attachment of the ring
and A is unsubstituted or substituted by one or two R^7.

7. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 6 wherein R^7 is selected from the group consisting of halogen, C_{1-3}alkyl, C_{1-3}alkyl substituted by one to three fluorine atoms, and C_{1-3}alkoxy.

8. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 7 wherein R^8 is selected from the group consisting of C_{1-6}alkyl, phenyl and aminomethyl.

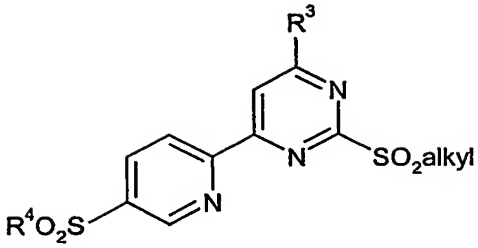
9. A compound as claimed in any of claims 1 to 8 wherein n is 0 to 2.

10. A compound of formula (I) as defined in any of claims 1 to 9 and as described in Examples 1 to 13.

11. [4-(5-Methanesulfonyl-pyridin-2-yl)-6-trifluoromethyl-pyrimidin-2-yl]-methyl-(6-methyl-pyridin-2-ylmethyl)-amine;
benzyl-[4-(5-methanesulfonyl-pyridin-2-yl)-6-trifluoromethyl-pyrimidin-2-yl]-amine;
cyclohexyl-[4-(5-methanesulfonyl-pyridin-2-yl)-6-trifluoromethyl-pyrimidin-2-yl]-amine.

12. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (I) as defined in claim 1, which comprises:

(A), reacting a compound R^1XH of formula (II) or a protected derivative thereof with a compound of formula (III)



(III)

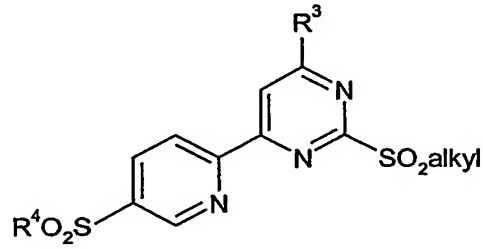
and thereafter and if necessary,

(B), interconverting a compound of formula (I) into another compound of formula (I); and/or

(C), deprotecting a protected derivative of compound of formula (I).

13. A process for the preparation of a compound of formula (IA) as defined in claim 2, which comprises:

(A) reacting an amine $HNR^2(CR^5R^6)_nA$ of formula (IIA) or a protected derivative thereof with a compound of formula (III) wherein R^3 is CF_3



(III)

and thereafter and if necessary,

(B), interconverting a compound of formula (I) into another compound of formula (I); and/or

(C), deprotecting a protected derivative of compound of formula (I).

14. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a compound of formula (I) or (IA) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11 in admixture with one or more physiologically acceptable carriers or excipients.

15. A compound of formula (I) or (IA) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11 for use in human or veterinary medicine.

16. A method of treating a human or animal subject suffering from a condition which is mediated by COX-2 which comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) or (IA) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11.

17. A method of treating a human or animal subject suffering from an inflammatory disorder, which method comprises administering to said subject an effective amount of a compound of formula (I) or (IA) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11.

18. The use of a compound of formula (I) or (IA) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11 for the manufacture of a therapeutic agent for the treatment of a condition which is mediated by COX-2.

19. The use of a compound of formula (I) or (IA) as defined in any one of claims 1 to 11 for the manufacture of a therapeutic agent for the treatment of an inflammatory disorder.